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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 7757M/MH	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/US00/23320	International filing date (day/month/year) 25/08/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 27/08/1999	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C11D3/39			
<p>Applicant THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY et al.</p> <p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of sheets.</p>			
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application 			

Date of submission of the demand 15/11/2000	Date of completion of this report 05.10.2001
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer  Renoth, H Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8589

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/US00/23320

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):
Description, pages: - - - - -

1-62 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-25 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 - the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 - the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).
3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages: - - -
- the claims, Nos.: - - -
- the drawings, sheets: - - -

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

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(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:-

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims
	No:	Claims 1-25
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims
	No:	Claims 1-25
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims 1-25
	No:	Claims

2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
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International application No. PCT/US00/23320

ad Item V

The following documents cited in the international search report are considered to be relevant with respect to the subject-matter of the present application;

- D1: WO-A-95/13352
- D2: WO-A-95/13353
- D3: WO-A-95/13351

Novelty, Article 33(2) PCT

Each of documents D1 to D3 relates to low-temperature bleaching systems and a method for cleaning substrates therewith, especially fabrics.

The bleaching systems of D1 and D2 contains 0.01-10% of aryliminium cations as the essential feature, whereas the bleaching system of D3 contains 0.01-10% of oxaziridinium cations as the essential feature.

In the examples of the present application the cationic catalyst compound is used in an amount of from 0.002% (Ex II:E) to 0.3% (Ex V).

Furthermore, according to pages 16 (last para.), 19 (top) and 17 (top) of D1, D2 and D3, respectively, the amount of the oxygen transfer agent initially present should be from 0.01 to about 300 ppm.

With respect to the entire disclosure of D1, D2 or D3 the independent claims 1, 17, 20 and 25, thus, lack novelty.

The additional features of dependent claims 2-16, 18, 19, 21-24 are also disclosed in at least one of the above mentioned documents. Therefore, these claims also appear to lack novelty.